



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2010

LCO No. 4142

SB0005204142SD0

Offered by:

SEN. CRISCO, 17th Dist.

REP. FONTANA, 87th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 52

File No. 5

Cal. No. 39

"AN ACT CONCERNING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY HEALTH CARE FOR UNINSURED CHILDREN."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 19a-712 of the 2010
4 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is
5 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

6 (b) The SustiNet Health Partnership board of directors shall offer
7 recommendations to the General Assembly on the governance
8 structure of the entity that is best suited to provide oversight and
9 implementation of the SustiNet Plan. Such recommendations may
10 include, but need not be limited to, the establishment of a public
11 authority authorized and empowered:

12 (1) To adopt guidelines, policies and regulations in accordance with
13 chapter 54 that are necessary to implement the provisions of sections

14 19a-710 to 19a-723, inclusive;

15 (2) To contract with insurers or other entities for administrative
16 purposes, such as claims processing and credentialing of providers.
17 Such contracts shall reimburse these entities using "per capita" fees or
18 other methods that do not create incentives to deny care. The selection
19 of such insurers or other entities may take into account their capacity
20 and willingness to (A) offer timely networks of participating providers
21 both within and outside the state, and (B) help finance the
22 administrative costs involved in the establishment and initial operation
23 of the Sustinet Plan;

24 (3) To solicit bids from individual providers and provider
25 organizations and to arrange with insurers and others for access to
26 existing or new provider networks, and take such other steps to
27 provide all Sustinet Plan members with access to timely, high-quality
28 care throughout the state and, in appropriate cases, care that is outside
29 the state's borders;

30 (4) To establish appropriate deductibles, standard benefit packages
31 and out-of-pocket cost-sharing levels for different providers, that may
32 vary based on quality, cost, provider agreement to refrain from balance
33 billing Sustinet Plan members, and other factors relevant to patient
34 care and financial sustainability;

35 (5) To commission surveys of consumers, employers and providers
36 on issues related to health care and health care coverage;

37 (6) To negotiate on behalf of providers participating in the Sustinet
38 Plan to obtain discounted prices for vaccines and other health care
39 goods and services;

40 (7) To make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or
41 incidental to the performance of its duties and the execution of its
42 powers under its enabling legislation, including contracts and
43 agreements for such professional services as financial consultants,
44 actuaries, bond counsel, underwriters, technical specialists, attorneys,

45 accountants, medical professionals, consultants, bio-ethicists and such
46 other independent professionals or employees as the board of directors
47 shall deem necessary;

48 (8) To purchase reinsurance or stop loss coverage, to set aside
49 reserves, or to take other prudent steps that avoid excess exposure to
50 risk in the administration of a self-insured plan;

51 (9) To enter into interagency agreements for performance of
52 Sustinet Plan duties that may be implemented more efficiently or
53 effectively by an existing state agency;

54 (10) To set payment methods for licensed health care providers that
55 reflect evolving research and experience both within the state and
56 elsewhere, promote access to care and patient health, prevent
57 unnecessary spending, and ensure sufficient compensation to cover the
58 reasonable cost of furnishing necessary care;

59 (11) To appoint such advisory committees as may be deemed
60 necessary for the public authority to successfully implement the
61 Sustinet Plan, further the objectives of the public authority and secure
62 necessary input from various experts and stakeholder groups;

63 (12) To establish and maintain an Internet web site that provides for
64 timely posting of all public notices issued by the public authority or
65 the board of directors and such other information as the public
66 authority or board deems relevant in educating the public about the
67 Sustinet Plan;

68 (13) To evaluate the implementation of an individual mandate in
69 concert with guaranteed issue, the elimination of preexisting condition
70 exclusions, and the implementation of auto-enrollment;

71 (14) To apply for and receive federal funds and raise funds from
72 private and public sources outside of the state budget to contribute
73 toward support of its mission and operations;

74 (15) To make optimum use of opportunities created by the federal

75 government for securing new and increased federal funding,
76 including, but not limited to, increased reimbursement revenues;

77 (16) In the event of the enactment of federal health care reform, to
78 submit preliminary recommendations for the implementation of the
79 Sustinet Plan to the General Assembly not later than sixty days after
80 the date of enactment of such federal health care reform; [and]

81 (17) To study the feasibility of funding premium subsidies for
82 individuals with income that exceeds three hundred per cent of the
83 federal poverty level but does not exceed four hundred per cent of the
84 federal poverty level; and

85 (18) To study the establishment of additional programs to provide
86 health care to uninsured children in this state. Such study shall
87 include, but not be limited to, an examination of programs in other
88 states that provide health care or health insurance coverage for
89 uninsured children.

90 (c) Not later than January 1, 2011, the Sustinet Health Partnership
91 board of directors shall submit (1) its design and implementation
92 procedures in the form of recommended legislation to the joint
93 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
94 matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies
95 and finance, revenue and bonding, and (2) a report on its findings and
96 recommendations for subdivision (18) of subsection (b) of this section
97 to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
98 cognizance of matters relating to public health and insurance, in
99 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a."

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | from passage | 19a-712(b) and (c) |